

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 8-12, and 18-31 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, the Abstract and claims 1-2, 8-12, and 18-20 are amended, claims 3-7 and 13-17 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claims 21-31 are added. No new matter is added. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims, and drawings. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to the disclosure and claims 10 and 20 due to informalities. The objection is moot in view of the amendments made to the disclosure and claims 10 and 20, and thus should be withdrawn.

The Office Action objected to claim 17 under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. The objection is moot in view of the cancellation of claim 17, and thus should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-7 and 11-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bitran et al. (hereinafter "Bitran") GB Patent No. 2,329,543A. Claims 3-7 and 13-17 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and thus the rejection is moot with respect to these claims. The rejection is respectfully traversed in so far as it applies to claims 1-2 and 11-12.

Bitran is directed to a video compressor capable of comparing present and previous video frames in quantized coefficient space, a video transmission system comprising a video

compressor, and a method of video compression which may comprise comparing present and previous video frames in the quantized coefficient space. However, Bitran does not disclose or suggest a method of receiving information describing an image using a color histogram, as recited in independent claim 1. Further, Bitran does not disclose or suggest receiving a first sequence of bits and a second sequence of bits, wherein each bit of the first sequence and each bit of the second sequence is associated with a bin and a threshold, and wherein in the order of bits of both the first sequence and the second sequence, no adjacent bits are associated with the same bin, as recited in independent claim 1. With respect to independent claim 11, Bitran does not disclose or suggest an apparatus configured to receive and process information describing an image using a color histogram, the apparatus comprising means for receiving and processing a first sequence of bits and a second sequence of bits, wherein each bit of the first sequence and each bit of the second sequence is associated with a bin and a threshold, and wherein in the order of bits of both the first sequence and the second sequence, no adjacent bits are associated with the same bin. As set forth in the present application, a color histogram is information representing color distribution in multimedia data, for example, images. A bin number of a color histogram is determined based on how a given color space is quantized. Bitran does not address describing images using color histograms, or transferring or receiving such information.

Accordingly, the rejection of independent claims 1 and 11 over Bitran should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 2 and 12 are allowable at least for the reasons discussed above

with respect to independent claims 1 and 11, from which they depend, as well as for their added features.

The Office Action rejected claims 8-10 and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bitran, in view of Cheung et al. (hereinafter "Cheung"), an article "Progressive Image Transmission by Linear Quadtree Coding and Wavelet Transformation," 13th Int'l Conf. on Digital Signal Processing, V. 2, 1997, pp. 475-478. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Dependent claims 8-10 and 18-20 are allowable over Bitran at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 1 and 11, from which they depend, as well as for their added features. Further, Cheung fails to overcome the deficiencies of Bitran as it is merely cited to teach grouping values with the same associated coefficient. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 8-10 and 18-20 over the combination of Bitran and Cheung should be withdrawn.

Added claims 21-31 also define over the applied references.

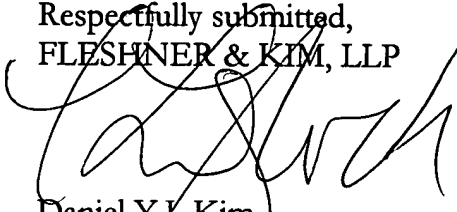
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **Carol L. Druzbeck**, at the telephone number listed below.

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Reply to Office Action dated July 1, 2004

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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
FLESHNER & KIM, LLP



Daniel Y.J. Kim
Registration No. 36,186
Carol L. Druzbeck
Registration No. 40,287

P.O. Box 221200
Chantilly, Virginia 20153-1200
(703) 766-3701 DYK:CLD/kah
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Please direct all correspondence to Customer Number 34610